

inaccessible. However it is within the scope of the present invention to provide a locking element 39 extending into the internal housing area of base 12 from adjacent the front edge of a side wall of base 12, for locking contact with the projecting latch 36. In that case, of course, the edge opening of the latch 36 would be positioned to accept the thus modified movement of the cam 37 and locking element 38. Likewise, the plate 30 may be hinge pinned or mechanically interlocked to the base frame 18 rather than utilize cooperation of edge 30a with frame 16 to secure plate 30 to the base. It will of course, be apparent to those skilled in the art that further embodiments may be made within the scope of the present invention, and it is intended that the scope of the invention be limited solely by the appended claims.

I Claim:

1. A bulk vending machine having a base, said base having peripheral walls for enclosing a coin box on a plurality of sides and for supporting a merchandise container having four peripheral side walls, a coin box in said base, a lid covering said merchandise container, a first lock securing said lid to said base for preventing upward separation of said container from said base, said base having a vertical front wall pivotal forwardly about its lower edge when released by relative upward movement of said merchandise container, and a second lock engagable when said container is resting snugly on top of the base positively connecting said container to said base and preventing unauthorized upward lifting separation of said container relative to said base.

2. The structure according to claim 1 wherein said second lock is mounted on said base front wall and said base front wall is secured against vertical movement relative to said base when in vending condition.

3. The structure according to claim 2 wherein said base front wall is constrained against vertical movement when in vending condition by extending beneath a top frame member rigid with said base.

- 5 4. In combination, a vending machine base compartment for containing a coin box, a merchandise supply bin secured to the top of said base compartment and removable therefrom by first keyed locking mechanism, a second locking structure for securing the front of the supply bin to the front of the base compartment to lockably prevent
- 10 unauthorized separation of the front edges of said base and supply bin, including a lockable projection extending from said supply bin downwardly into said base compartment, a moveable locking element secured to said base for cooperation with said lockable projection when said supply bin and base are fully assembled together.

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